INTHEUNITEDSTATESDISTRICTCOURT FORTHEEASTERNDISTRICTOFPENNSYLVANIA

KPFIRSTAVENUE, L.P., a Pennsylvania : CIVILACTION

LimitedPartnership;935GENERAL,INC.,

aPennsylvaniaCorporation;J.ANTHONY : HAYDEN;WILLIAME.LOCKE,JR.; : FAIRVIEWREALTYINVESTMENTSI, :

L.P.,aPennsylvaniaLimitedPartnership; : BRIANG.McELWEE,andRICHARDW. :

IRELAND,

:

Plaintiffs, :

:

v. :

PRENTISSPROPERTIESACQUISITION : PARTNERS,L.P.,aDelawareLimited :

Partnership, :

:

Defendant. : **NO.01-1396**

Reed,S.J. April26 ,2001 MEMORANDUM

Thisisthecaseofarealestatedevelopmentdealgoneawry. At the core of the case is a partner ship agreement entered into by the partiest hat contemplated the development and eventuals ale of a parcel of land and carried with it the potential for substantial profits. Plaintiffs brought this suit when defend an tattempted to sell the property before it had been developed, and they now see kapreliminary in junction to prevent the sale. For the reasons that follow, plaintiffs' request for an injunction will be denied.

Background

Thisdisputehasitsoriginsinplaintiffs' September 1999 purchase of a 14-acreparcel of landlocated at 935 First Avenue in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania ("the property"). The individual plaintiffs, J. Anthony Hayden, William E. Locke, Jr., Brian G. McElwee, and Richard

W.Ireland, formed a limited partnership, plaintiff K.P. First Avenue, L.P. ("K.P. First Avenue") for the purpose of acquiring the land, and entered into an agreement to purchase the property.

 $Eventually, plaintiffs sought out apartner for the purposes of developing the land, and defendant Prentiss Properties Acquisition Partners, L.P. ("Prentiss") emerged as the leading candidate. On October 22, 1999, plaintiffs $1 entered into an limited partnership agreement with Prentiss (935 First Avenue Associates Agreement of Limited Parternship, October 22, 1999, Plaintiffs `Exh.2$) ("Agreement"). This Agreement is the epicenter of the parties 'dispute.

According to the Agreement, the intent of the parties was "that the Partnership will investigate and plant he future redevelopment of the real property to be acquired by the partnership and... to pursue such redevelopment." (Agreement, Background, at 1.) The Agreement essentially constituted an exchange of plaintiffs' opportunity to acquire the land for the management and development capability of Prentiss. (Testimony of Peter Monaghan, Hearing on the Motion for Preliminary Injunction, April 11, 2001, at 59.) Prentiss served as the "General Partner" and had the "responsibility to manage the business of the Partnership." (Agreement, § 5.1, at 20.) The Agreement specifically authorized Prentiss to engage in a number of activities, including selling or disposing of partoral loft he property, subject to certain limitations. (Id., § 5.1.4, at 21.) As the "limited partners" under the Agreement, plaintiffs' primary entitle ment under the Agreement was to a 20 percent residual interest in what ever profits

 $^{^{}l} The actual signatory to the agreement with Prentiss was the limited partner ship created by the individual plaint iffs for the purpose of acquiring the property, K.P. First Avenue. Each of the individual plaint iffs was a member of K.P. First Avenue and the individuals 'interests here are in extricably linked with K.P. First Avenue. Therefore, for the sake of simplicity, I will here in refer to "plaint iffs," even when I am discussing only the interestor conduct of K.P. First Avenue.$

 $^{^2} All of the test imony cited in herein, unless otherwise noted, was presented at the April 11,2001, hearing on the motion for preliminary injunction.\\$

weregenerated by the development and sale of the property, along with reimbursement of the monies they had paid out to acquire the property and other sums such as development fees and leasing fees. (Testimony of Peter Monaghan, at 56-57; Testimony of William E. Locke, Jr., at 68-69). The Agreemental so afforded plaint iffs various preferred opportunities to purchase the land, including a right of first refusal in the event Prentiss considered selling the property. (Agreement, § 5.2(i), at 23.)

OnMarch16,2001,Prentissnotifiedplaintiffsbyletterthatithadreceivedanofferto buythepropertyfromBrandywineRealtyTrust,andexpresseditsdesiretoaccepttheofferon behalfofthepartnership.(LetterfromJ.KevanDilbeck,SeniorVicePresidentofPrentiss, March16,2001,Plaintiffs'Exh.22.)Thesaleofthepropertywaspartofabroaderproperty "swap"betweenPrentissandBrandywine,underwhichPrentisssoughttoexittherealestate marketinPennsylvania,NewJerseyandDelaware.("ExistingAssetSwap"Memorandum, Plaintiffs'Exh.8; "PrentissPropertiesTrustandBrandywineRealtyTrustAgreetoAsset Exchange"PressRelease,Mar.14,2001,Plaintiffs'Exh.17;TestimonyofPeterHausmann,at 141.)TheletterfromPrentisstoplaintiffsprovidedplaintiffswithnoticeandanopportunityto purchasethepropertybeforeproceedingwiththesaletoBrandywine,asrequiredundersection 5.2oftheAgreement.(Agreement,§5.2(i),at23.)Plaintiffshad10daystodecideunderterms oftheAgreement.(Id.)

 $Objecting to the sale and believing that Prent is shad violated the terms of the Agreement, \\ plaint iffs brought this suitand sought a temporary restraining order to prevent the sale. A \\ temporary restraining order is sue don March 23,2001. Prent is stipulated to the extension of the \\ temporary restraining order until this Courthad heard the evidence and arguments and rendered \\$

itsdecision.(TranscriptoftheHearingonMotionforPreliminaryInjunction,April11,2001,at 4.)

ThisCourtheardevidenceonthemotionforpreliminaryinjunctionatahearingonApril 11,2001,duringwhichthepartiespresentedthetestimonyofanumberofwitnessesand submittednumerousdocuments.OralargumentsonthemotionwerepresentedonApril 23, 2001.

Analysis³

Ibeginmyanalysiswitharecitationofthefamiliarfourconsiderationsthatmustbetaken intoaccountinassessingwhetherapreliminaryinjunctionshouldbegranted:

(1) whether the movan thas shown are a sonable probability of success on the merits; (2) whether the movan twill be irreparably harmed by denial of the relief; (3) whether granting preliminary relief will result in even greater harm to the nonmoving party; and (4) whether granting the preliminary relief will be in the public interest.

ACLUv.Reno ,217F.3d162,172(3dCir.2000)(quoting AlleghenyEnergy,Inc.v.DQE,Inc. 171F.3d153,158(3dCir.1999)). Adistrict courts hould endeavor to "balance[] these four... factors to determine if an injunction should issue." ACLU of New Jerseyv. Black Horse Pike Regional Bd. of Educ. ,84F.3d1471,1477n.2(3dCir.1996)(enbanc). "[T] he burden is clearly on the moving party to prove all elements required for a preliminary injunction "Adamsv. Freedom Forge Corp. ,204F.3d475,486(3dCir.2000).

³ Becausethisactionisbetweenpartieswhoarecitizensofdifferentstatesandtheamountin controversyexceeds\$75,000,thisCourthassubjectmatterjurisdictionunder28U.S.C.§1332.Federaldiversity casesaregovernedbothbyfederalprocedurallaws,suchastheFederalRulesofCivilProcedure, see Hannav. Plumer,380U.S.460,473-74,85S.Ct.1136(1965)andbythesubstantivelawsoftheforumState(here, Pennsylvania)asestablishedbythatState'shighestcourt. See CommissionerofInternalRevenuev.Bosch ,387U.S. 456,465,87S.Ct.1776(1967).

1. ReasonableProbabilityofSuccessontheMerits

Plaintiffs'likelihoodofsuccessonthemeritsturnsonwhethertheyhavebroughtforward substantialevidencethatPrentissbreachedtheAgreementorbreachedafiduciarydutyowedto theplaintiffs.Plaintiffsargueeloquentlyconcerningthenatureofthefiduciaryduty,andcontend inacompellingfashionthatPrentissbreacheditsfiduciarydutybyfailingtoconsultwith plaintiffs,failingtokeepplaintiffsinformedoftheprogressingettingthenecessaryapprovalsfor developingtheproperty,concealingfromplaintiffsitsintentiontosell935FirstAvenuetoa thirdparty,manipulatingitsrightoffirstrefusalnoticetopreventplaintiffsfromexercisingthat right,andgenerallyworkingatcrosspurposeswiththepartnership.

The problem with plaintiffs' fiduciary argument is that it runs smack into exclusionary language that arguably allows Prentiss to down at it did. The Agreement provides that a breach is the problem of the problem with plaintiffs' fiduciary argument is that it runs smack into exclusionary language that arguably allows Prentiss to down at it did. The Agreement provides that a breach is the problem of the pro

(Plaintiffs' Exh. 18, between pp. 22 and 23, Gulbrandsen Notes.) Plaintiffs seek to admit these notes into evidence as proof that Prentiss did infact actin bad faith. The notes are an out-of-court statement of fered for the truth of what they assert, and thus would typically be excluded as hears ay. Plaintiffs, however, contend that the notes constitute an admission of a party-opponent and are thus admissible under Rule 801(d)(2)(E) of the Federal Rules of Evidence, which allows into evidence "a statement by the party's agent or servant concerning a matter within the scope of the agency or employment, maded uring the existence of the relationship." The reis no question that Gulbrands en was an agent or servant of Prentiss at the time he made the senotes, and the refore I conclude that the notes are admissible.

Gulbrandsentestified a this deposition that the notes were "myjust brain storming what I could expect the limiteds [plaintiffs] todo." (Deposition Testimony of Henry C. Gulbrandsen, April 16,2001, at 15.) Thus, according to Gulbrandsen's testimony, the notes were not statements of fact (i.e., that there was indeed bad faith on the part of Prentiss), but an effort to predict the arguments of plaintiffs. Plaintiffs suggest that Gulbrandsen's testimony is not credible. Upon reading Gulbrandsen's deposition, I find his testimony to be credible and his explanation of the notes to be reasonable. Moreover, even if the notes reflected that Gulbrandsen himself believed that Prentiss had acted in bad faith, his impressions alone would not be dispositive of whether Prentiss in fact acted in bad faith. Therefore, I do not find that consideration of the notes conclusively establishes bad faith on the part of Prentiss.

 $^{^4} Plaintiffs point to handwritten notes take by Prentissem ployee Henry C. Gulbrandsen as prima facie evidence of breach of fiduciary duty. The text of those notes includes the following:$

³⁾ This is "badfaith" offer, a[] and way for GP to sell his interest to B' wine!

Look A5.5.4, GP guilty of material breach of fiduciary duty and we're GP.

offiduciarydutydoesnotinclude"under any circumstances any decisionordeterminationofthe GeneralPartnerrespectingthedevelopmentofthePropertyor any planningactivities(including withoutlimitationany decisionnottoproceedwithanyparticularactivity), whichmaybeat variancewiththeviewsoftheLimitedPartner."(Agreement, §5.5.4(i), at 29(emphasis added).)

Facially, the broadlanguage of the Agreement could be interpreted to encompass all of plaintiffs' allegations of breach of fiduciary dutyrelated to the sale, including the failure to consult, the manipulation of the right of first refusal notice, and the failure to keep plaintiffs informed about the necessary approvals. Plaintiffs contend that this exclusionary languagedoes not expressly exclude the sale of property, and therefore does not excuse the conduct of Prentiss in this case.

However I conclude that, read broadly, the language could be interpreted to exclude from breach of fiduciary duty adecision to sell the property, even when the limited partner disagrees. I draw no final conclusions as to the meaning of this language to day, and only observe that it is not free from ambiguity, and thus does not clearly favorone side or the other.

Accordingly, even assuming that Prentiss did all that plaint iffs allege, I find that the exclusionary language of section 5.5.4 of the Agreement under mine splaint iffs' contention that defendant's conduct constituted abreach of fiduciary duty. Plaint iffs have not bornetheir burden of convincing methat they have a reasonable likelihood of successon the merits of their contention that the conduct of defendant probably constituted abreach of fiduciary duty under the terms of the Agreement. I conclude that at best, the evidence is in equipoise, and that plaint iffs have not tipped the scales of successint heir favor at this time.

2. IrreparableHarm

Themostimportantconsiderationinthiscaseiswhetherplaintiffswillsufferirreparable harmifapreliminaryinjunctiondoesnotissue. Plaintiffsarguethatifapreliminaryinjunctionis notgranted, they will lose an interestin real property, and that the loss of an interestin real property presumptively constitutes irreparable harmunder the law, because real property is legally unique.

There is a serious doubt as to whether plaintiffs had an interest in real property here at all. Pennsylvania Statutory law in provides that "[t] he interest of a partner in the partner ship is his share of the profits and surplus and that interest is personal property." 15 Pa.C.S. § 8343. In a case interpreting a nearly identical statute from New Jersey, a district court in this circuit held,

[W]henapartnershipacquirestitletorealproperty,thepartners,asindividuals,donotacquireany realpropertyinterestintheproperty.Itisonlywhenapartner,inhisorherindividualcapacity, choosestopurchasetherealpropertyfromthepartnershipandtitleistransferredtosaidindividual thatheorshecanbesaidtoown,inalegalsense,andthushaveacquiredthatrealproperty.

<u>GrandStreetArtistsv.GeneralElectricCo.</u>, 28F.Supp.2d291,297(D.N.J.1998).Ifindthis reasoningpersuasiveandadoptit.Underthecircumstancesofthiscase, plaintiffs, aslimited partners, ownedatbestapersonal property interestinthe partnership and the profits and surpluses derived therefrom, not a direct interestin real property. Thus, even if the rewerea conclusive presumption of irreparable harmwherean interestin real property is threat ened, there is noth reattoan interestin real property in this case.

Moreover, Icould find no cases establishing plaintiffs' perse rule of irreparable harmin all real property-related cases. Plaintiffs relyon cases that state the proposition that damages to real property are generally unique, and that in juriest or eal property interests frequently warrant equitable relief. See K-Marty. Oriental Plaza Inc. ,875F. 2d907,915-16(1 stCir. 1989) ("Real

 $\label{eq:persent} A number of cases suggest that there is no such $perse$ rule of irreparable harmin real-property-related cases. The Court of Appeals for the First Circuit has observed in the preliminary injunction context that$

 $\'{r} eale state has long been thought to be unique.... \'{B} ethat a sit may, irreparable harmis not assumed; it must be demonstrated. And even where real property is involved, \'{s} peculative in jury does not constitute a showing of irreparable harm. \'{s}$

<u>See NarragansettIndianTribev.Guilbert</u>,934F.2d4,6-7(1 stCir.1991)(citationsomitted)see <u>also PublicServiceCo.ofN.H.v.TownofWestNewbury</u>,835F.2d380,381(1 stCir.1987) (rejectingplaintiff'scontentionthat"anyrestraintonanyinterestinrealpropertyisperse irreparableinjury").

Closertohome, the Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit considered a case brought by a real estated evel oper who claimed that the county had violated his constitutional rights by failing to issue a building permit. See Aciernov. New Castle Cty. ,40F.3d645 (3dCir.1994). The district court is sue dapreliminary in junction directing the county to issue a building permit, and the court of appeals reversed on the ground that the developer was seeking only "temporary loss of income."

Despitethefactthatthecaseinvolvedallegationsofasubstantialinterferencewithan individual'srighttomanageandusehisrealproperty,thecourtofappealsnowherementioneda perse ruleorevenapresumptionofirreparableharmincasesinvolvingthreatstorealestate interests.Instead,thecourtofappealsengagedinasearchinginquiryintoirreparableharm, observing, "[W]ethinktheinquiryintoirreparableharm...mustfocusonwhethermoney damagescanmakehimwholeifhiswishtodevelopthepropertyasacommercialmallis wrongfullydelayed." Id.at654.Thecourtofappealsconcludedthattherecordshowed "no morethanapotentialforpurelyeconomicinjurytoAcierno," andthatmoneydamagestherefore wouldbesufficienttocompensateplaintiffforanyinjuryhesufferedasaresultofthe defendants' conduct. Id.at655.

Plaintiffsseektodistinguish <u>Acierno</u>onthegroundthatitinvolvedaplaintiff'srequest foramandatoryoraffirmativeinjunction,whileplaintiffshererequestonlyanegativeinjunction. Thisdistinctionisunhelpful.Plaintiffshavearguedthatanyinjurytoarealpropertyinterest presumptivelycausesirreparableharm,andthatnofurtherinquiryintoirreparableharmis required.Inconsideringirreparableharmin <u>Acierno</u>,arequirementofbothnegativeand mandatoryinjunctions,thecourtofappealsdidnotpresumeirreparableharmfromthefactthat plaintiffallegedaninjurytorealproperty,andinsteadengagedinacarefulinquiryintowhether plaintiffsinjurywasinfactirreparable.

Iconcludethat <u>Acierno</u>counselsagainsta *perse* ruleofirreparableharmincases involvinganinjurytoaninterestinland,andinsteadrequiresacarefulanexaminationofthe natureofplaintiffs'interesthere,thepotentialforinjury,andwhethermonetarydamageswould besufficienttoassuagesuchaninjury.Inowturntothatexamination.

The interests of plaintiffs under the Agreementherewere described by plaintiff Locke, who testified.

The interests of the limited partners is to maximize our economic value and benefit in this project. And there are some ancillary is sues which previous witness, Peter Monaghan made in light of interms of his participation in the development of the project but our goal is to make money on this and maximize the amount of money we can make and this—this sale precludes us from doing that the project but our goal is to make money on this and maximize the amount of money we can make and this—this sale precludes us from doing that the project but our goal is to make money or the project but our goal is the proj

(Testimony of William Locke, at 96.) Under the Agreement, plaint iffs did not own a stake in the land itself and had no substantial right to manage, control, use or enjoy the property. Prent is shad reimbursed plaint iffs the monies they had invested to purchase the property, and under the Agreement, the rights and responsibilities for managing and controlling the property were delegated to Prent is s. The central interest and entitlement of the plaint iffs was to the profits that the property might generate. Thus, any injury plaint iffs might suffer as limited partners would be purely economic and compensable through monetary damages.

Plaintiffs,however,urgethattheirinterestisnotmerelymonetary,becauseunderthe Agreement,theyhaveachancetotakeovermanagementandcontroloftheproperty.Plaintiffs pointtotheAgreement'sConversionOption,§5.5.4,underwhichtheymaywrestcontroland managementauthorityofthepropertyawayfromPrentissintheeventPrentissbreachesits fiduciaryduty. ⁵Infact,plaintiffsclaimedinopenCourtthatasof10a.m.onApril24,2001, theywillhaveexercisedtheirconversionoptionandimmediatelyassumedthedutiesofthe generalpartnerundertheAgreement.Ifthisistrue,asofthedraftingofthisdecision,plaintiffs havethecontrolofthepropertythattheyseek.Theobviousquestionunderthatscenariois:

⁵Section 5.5.4 provides, "If(i) the General Partnershall beguilty of a material breach of fiduciary duty...[subject to certain exclusions]...the Limited Partnershall have the right to exercise a 'Limited Partner Conversion Option.'"

Where is their reparable harm, if plaint iffs are now in control of the property and can prevent a sale from occurring? Plaint iffs respond that they expect Prent is swill object to the exercise of the Conversion Option, which, under the terms of the Agreement, will return the control of the property to Prent is spending the outcome of an arbitration of their dispute. Thus, it appears that plaint iffs seek the preliminary in junction to prevent Prent is sfrom selling the property during the pendency of the arbitration of the conversion is sue.

Thebottomlineofthisratherconfusingconflagrationofcontingenciesisthatplaintiffs believetheycouldpossiblygaincontrolofthepropertythroughtheConversionOption,andthus enjoyamoredirectinterestintheproperty,aninjurytowhichwouldconstituteirreparableharm. However,asdiscussedabove,thefactthatthiscaseinvolvesrealpropertydoesnot perse leadto afindingofirreparableharm,andthereforeImustexaminethenatureofplaintiffs'interestand thepotentialinjurytoittodeterminewhethertherewouldbeirreparableharminthisparticular case.Doesaninjurytotheplaintiffs'potentialinterestinthemanagementandcontrolofthe propertyundertheConversionOptionconstituteirreparableharm?Iconcludethatitdoesnot, becausetheplaintiffs'primaryinterestinthisproperty,evenundertheConversionOption,can bemeasuredinmonetaryterms.

Evenifaconversionweretotakeplace,plaintiffswouldmerelyaccedetotherightsand responsibilitiesofthegeneralpartner. Theycontinuetoholdnothingmorethanapartnership interestintheproperty, albeitwith greater authority than before. As discussed above, in Pennsylvania apartnership interestis apersonal property interest, not an interestin real property. Even under the conversions cenario, then, plaintiffs would hold only apartnership interest, and

 $not a direct interest in real property. Accordingly, the possibility of a conversion under \S 5.5.4 of the Agreement does not alter my irreparable harmanalysis.$

Thissamepointcanbeilluminatedbyexaminingthefundamentalmotivation of the plaintiffswithregardtotheproperty. The factist hat plaintiffs never wanted to own, manage, controlorusethisland; they merely wanted the profits from it. They bought the property and immediatelyturneditovertoPrentisstomanage,controlanddevelopit,withthehopeof eventuallymakingmoneyonthesaleoftheimprovedland. When offered an opportunity to purchasetheland, they did not do so. Instead, plaintiffs brought this suitand exercised the ConversionOption.Themostobviousinferencefromthesequenceofevents and the evidence is that plaintiffs are exercising the Conversion Option not because they want to enjoy the land, but because they want to stop the sale of the property by Prentiss that threatens their potential profits. TheAgreementitselfindicatesthattheprimaryinterestoftheplaintiffsremainseconomiceven intheeventofaconversion; itensures that "the economic interests of the Limited Partners shall remainunaffectedbyreasonoftheconversion."(Agreement, §5.5.4, at 30.) The Conversion Optionthusoperatesasameanstoprotectandpreserveplaintiffs' priorinterests, not a source of anewandmorerobustreal property interest. Even in the event of a conversion, plaintiffs' primaryinterestandpurposewillbethesameithasbeenallalong;tomakemoneyofftheland.I conclude that any harm to that interest may be compensated adequately by monetary damages.

Plaintiffs'alternatepositionisthatafailuretograntapreliminaryinjunctionwould irreparablyharmtheirinterestinthearbitrationoftheconversiondispute.UndertheAgreement, thepartiesmustarbitrateanydisputeovertheConversionOption,andwhilethearbitrationis pending,noconversionmaytakeplace.(Agreement, § 5.5.4, at 30.) What this means is that

until an arbitration is conducted, Prentiss will remain the General Partner and may proceed with the sale of the property to Brandy wine or another suitor. Once the property is sold, the arbitration is rendered moot, and thus, plaint iffs' contend, their right to arbitration could be eviscerated, which would constitute irreparable harm.

OrthoPharmaceuticalCorp. The decision of the Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit in v.Amgen,Inc. ,882F.2d806(3dCir.1989),isinstructivehere. There, the court of appeals observed, "inthecase of an arbitrable dispute, the district court should apply the traditional test todeterminewhetherthecaseisanappropriateonetoissueinjunctiverelief." Id.at813seealso id.at812("[W]eholdthatadistrictcourthastheauthoritytograntinjunctivereliefinan arbitrabledispute, provided that the traditional prerequisites for such reliefares at is fied."). Thus, under Ortho, the specter of arbitrational one is not enough to establish irreparable harm; the potentialoutcomeofthearbitrationstillmustsatisfythefour-partanalysisforpreliminary injunctions, including their reparable harmprong. In other words, plaintiffs must show that the interestthatissubjecttoarbitrationissouniquethataninjurytoitwouldconstituteirreparable harm. Ihave concluded that an injury to the interest at stake in the arbitration—plaintiffs' right toexercisetheConversionOption-wouldnotbeirreparableandcouldbecompensated adequatelybymoneydamages. Therefore, I conclude that the pendency of arbitrational one does notestablishirreparableharminthiscase.

Accordingly, I conclude that plaint iff shave not met their burden of establishing a likelihood that they will be irreparable harmed if a preliminary injunction does not issue.

3. BalancingtheHardships

Itisnotimmediatelyclearwhostandslosemoreinthiscase.Ontheonehand,plaintiffs saytheywillloseupwardsoftwomilliondollarsinpotentialprofitsfromafuturesaleofthe developedproperty.Ontheotherhand,Prentissclaimsitmaylosetheopportunitytosellthe propertytoBrandywineandthusbeforcedtocontinuedevelopingapropertyinamarketthatit hasexited,andpossiblybeunabletofinancethecontinueddevelopmentofthepropertyandthus injurethepartnership.

PrentisspresentednoevidencethattheBrandywinesalewasimperiledbythepotentialof adelay;infact,Prentisshasrepeatedlyagreedtoextenddeadlinesinthislitigation,andIinfer fromtheirflexibilitythatthereisnourgencyregardingtheBrandywinesale.Likewise,Prentiss didnotproduceevidenceofthedifficultyofcontinuingwithdevelopment,orthatitwouldbe unabletocontinuetofinancethedevelopment.Plaintiffs,bycontrast,offeredtestimony concerningtheirvaluationofthepropertyandotherperquisitestheywouldbedeprivedofifthe Brandywinesalewentthrough.(TestimonyofWilliamE.Locke,Jr.,at68-69.)Iconcludethat plaintiffs'potentialhardshipprobablyoutweighsdefendant'shardship,andthatthiselement leansinplaintiffs'favor.

4. PublicPolicy

I can discern from the evidence or arguments no public policy advantage or disadvantage to either party.

Conclusion

The outcome of this motion becomes clear when the factors are balanced against one another. In a vector of the concluded that plaint iffs have not borne their burden on the two most important and the concluded that plaint iffs have not borne their burden on the two most important and the concluded that plaint iffs have not borne their burden on the two most important and the concluded that plaint iffs have not borne their burden on the concluded that plaint iffs have not borne their burden on the concluded that plaint iffs have not borne the concluded that plaint if the concluded that plaint iffs have not borne the concluded that plaint if the concluded that plaint is the

considerationsonapreliminaryinjunction:thelikelihoodofsuccessonthemeritsandirreparable harm. The fact that hardships may weigh heavier on plaintiffs cannots wing the outcome in plaintiffs 'favor, in light of the fact that I amnot convinced that plaintiffs have are a sonable probability of successor will suffer an irreparable in jury.

 $\label{lem:condingly} Accordingly, for the foregoing reasons, the motion for preliminary injunction will be denied.$

An appropriate Order follows.

INTHEUNITEDSTATESDISTRICTCOURT FORTHEEASTERNDISTRICTOFPENNSYLVANIA

KPFIRSTAVENUE,L.P.,etal. : CIVILACTION

:

Plaintiffs,

v.

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PRENTISSPROPERTIESACQUISITION

PARTNERS,L.P.,

Defendant. : **NO.01-1396**

ORDER

ANDNOW ,this26thdayofApril,2001,uponconsiderationofplaintiffsthemotionfor preliminaryinjunction(DocumentNo.14)andthemotionofdefendanttodissolvethetemporary restrainingorder(DocumentNo.8),andhavingheldahearingonApril11,2001atwhichthe partiesofferedevidenceandpresentedtestimony,andhavingheardoralargumentsonApril23, 2001,andhavingconcluded,forthereasonssetforthintheforegoingmemorandum,that plaintiffshavenotmettheirburdenofestablishingareasonablelikelihoodofsuccessor irreparableharm,andthatapreliminaryinjunctionisthereforenotwarrantedunderonthe evidencenowintherecord, ITISHEREBYORDERED thatthemotionforpreliminary injunctionis DENIEDandthemotiontodissolvethetemporaryrestrainingorderis GRANTED andthetemporaryrestrainingorder(DocumentNo.3)is DISSOLVED.

LOWELLA.REED,JR.,S.J.	